

## Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 BUENOS 03400 102016Z

11

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 IO-14 JUSE-00 NSAE-00

RSC-01 SNM-02 SY-04 TRSE-00 USIA-15 NSC-07 SCI-06

OMB-01 SS-20 PA-04 PRS-01 L-03 CU-04 DRC-01 /114 W

----- 111649

R 101929Z MAY 74

FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6413

INFO DEA HQTS WASHDC

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BUENOS AIRES 3400

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SNAR, AR

SUBJECT: LOPEZ REGA PROMISES REACTIVATION BINATIONAL COMMISSION,  
BROAD EFFORT AGAINST NARCOTICS PROBLEM

SUMMARY: DURING AN HOUR LONG SESSION WITH ME, CONATON CHAIRMAN  
LOPEZ REGA STATED FLATLY THAT GOA WOULD IMMEDIATELY REACTIVATE  
CONATON, CALL A SESSION OF BINATIONAL COMMISSION, AND SIGN  
UMBRELLA AGREEMENT PERMITTING IMPLEMENTATION OF THE COMMODITY  
PROJECTS, ALL OF WHICH WOULD BE ACCOMPLISHED BEFORE END OF  
MONTH. END SUMMARY.

1. AT HOUR LONG MEETING ON MAY 8, REQUESTED BY ME IN MY CAPACITY  
AS JOINT CHAIRMAN OF THE USG/GOA BINATIONAL NARCOTICS COMMISSION,  
GOA COUNTERPART LOPEZ REGA PROMISED FULL COOPERATION IN AN  
ENHANCED GOA NARCOTICS PROGRAM. ALTHOUGH NOT ON THE GOA LIST  
OF PARTICIPANTS, FOREIGN MINISTER VIGNES ATTENDED THE FIRST  
HALF OF THE MEETING. OTHERS ON GOA SIDE WERE WELFARE SECRETARY  
FOR COORDINATION VILLONA, DR CARLOS CAGLIOTTI AND TWO REPRESENT-  
ATIVES OF THE POLICE. DCM AND NARCOTICS COORDINATOR ALSO PRESENT  
AT SESSION, PART OF WHICH WAS VIDEOTAPED.

2. I OPENED BY STATING THAT I BELIEVED IT NECESSARY THAT  
COCHAIRMAN MEET AND REVIEW DEVELOPMENTS SINCE THERE HAD BEEN  
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 BUENOS 03400 102016Z

MANY CHANGES ON BOTH SIDES OF COMMISSION TABLE. I STATED THAT

WASHINGTON APPROVAL HAD BEEN GIVEN FOR COMMODITY INPUTS TO BOTH POLICE AND GENDARMERIA, BUT BEFORE DETAILED AGREEMENTS COULD BE REACHED BINATIONAL COMMISSION NEEDED TO SIGN OVERALL UMBRELLA AGREEMENT (BA 0147).

3. TAKING BOTH A PERSONALISTIC AND MORALISTIC APPROACH, LOPEZ REGA STATED THAT GOA DEFINITELY COMMITTED TO INCREASING NARCOTICS EFFORT. STATED THAT ILLEGAL USAGE IN ARGENTINA DEFINITELY ON UPSWING AND NEW ADDICTS CENTER NOW ADMITTING ONE PATIENT DAILY. HE CONSIDERS HIMSELF "NUMBER ONE ENEMY OF TRAFFICKERS" AND ARGENTINA WOULD COOPERATE NOT ONLY TO ASSIST USG WITH ITS PROBLEM BUT BECAUSE GOA ALSO HAS A SEVERE SOCIAL PROBLEM. HE PLACED THE BLAME ON THE LARGE TRAFFICKERS WHO RESIDED IN ARGENTINA.

4. IN RESPONSE TO A REMARK BY ME, LOPEZ REGA STATED THAT POLICE TO POLICE COOPERATION WAS EXCELLENT, THAT HE HAD BEEN BRIEFED EARLY BY DEA AGENTS AND HE WAS FULLY CONVERSANT WITH DEA OPERATIONS HERE. HE SAID DEA'S METHOD OF OPERATIONS WERE FULLY ACCEPTABLE, "AS LONG AS ARGENTINE SOVEREIGNTY IS NOT VIOLATED."

5. IN RESPONSE TO MY STATEMENT THAT I HOPED THAT THE UMBRELLA AGREEMENT COULD BE SIGNED BEFORE I WENT TO WASHINGTON FOR CONSULTATION END OF MAY, LOPEZ REGA SAID HE SAW NO PROBLEM IN THIS. HE SAID THAT THE GOA WOULD HAVE TO SELECT THE NEW MEMBERS FOR THE BINATIONAL COMMISSION AND INTERNALLY REVIEW THE PROPOSED AGREEMENT. HOWEVER, ALL THIS WOULD BE ACCOMPLISHED QUICKLY AND THE AGREEMENT SIGNED BY MONTH END.

COMMENT: THE GOA TOOK THE OCCASION OF MY CALL TO FORMALLY AND PUBLICALLY STATE ITS COMMITMENT TO THE DRUG CAMPAIGN. THE MEETING, AND A SUBSEQUENT PRESS CONFERENCE BY LOPEZ REGA WAS GIVEN OVER SEVEN MINUTES ON PRIME TIME TV NEWS AND HEAVY PRESS PLAY. IT IS A CLEAR, IF LONG OVERDUE, SIGNAL THAT THIS GOVERNMENT WILL PROVIDE AT LEAST AS MUCH COOPERATION AS ITS PREDECESSORS. LOPEZ REGA OBVIOUSLY HAD BEEN WELL BRIEFED BY CAGLIOTTI, WHOSE WORK AS DIRECTOR OF THE REHABILITATION CLINIC HE PRAISED HEAVILY. CAGLIOTTI, A FORMER LEADER GRANTEE, IS WELL INFORMED ON ALL FACETS OF THE NARCOTICS PROBLEM, AND WELL EXPERIENCED IN THE GOA BUREAUCRATIC THICKETS AND IS PERHAPS THE BEST MAN IN THE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 BUENOS 03400 102016Z

GOA TO ACT AS CONATON EXECUTIVE SECRETARY AT THIS TIME.

6. DURING THE ONE HOUR CONVERSATION WITH LOPEZ REGA I WAS INTERESTED IN OBSERVING HIS DESIRE TO IMPRESS ME WITH HIS SINCERITY, HIS DECISIVENESS AND HIS UNDERSTANDING OF THE DANGER OF NARCOTICS. VIGNES THE WISE ONE SAT QUIETLY AND OBSERVED THE TWO OF US. IT WAS A STAGE SHOW THAT INTERESTED ME. I SHALL LOOK FORWARD TO GETTING TO KNOW LOPEZ REGA BETTER BUT PROBABLY TRUSTING

HIM LESS.

HILL

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** DRUG CONTROL, AGREEMENTS, PROGRAMS (PROJECTS), INTERGOVERNMENTAL COOPERATION, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 10 MAY 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** GarlanWA  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1974BUENOS03400  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D740115-0658  
**From:** BUENOS AIRES  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1974/newtext/t19740559/aaaacabc.tel  
**Line Count:** 117  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION ARA  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 3  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** GarlanWA  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 04 SEP 2002  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <04 SEP 2002 by boyleja>; APPROVED <10 FEB 2003 by GarlanWA>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** LOPEZ REGA PROMISES REACTIVATION BINATIONAL COMMISSION, BROAD EFFORT AGAINST NARCOTICS PROBLEM  
**TAGS:** SNAR, AR, US, CONATON, (LOPEZ REGA)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005